IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 7, 9-11, and 13-20 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add new claims 21-47 as shown below.

21. (New) A method, comprising:

providing a plurality of selected modules;

configuring the selected modules to correspond to technical solutions usable in network layers;

connecting the selected modules hierarchically to form a hierarchic layered structure;

configuring the selected modules to provide resources to adjacent modules in the hierarchic layered structure;

configuring the selected modules substitutably;

modeling a network based on the selected modules; and

providing a comparison of different technical solutions to a user based on the modeling.

22. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

configuring a technical solution of at least one module of the selected modules to be usable in more than one layer of the layered structure.

23. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

performing routing of the layered structure in one module, of the selected modules, at a time such that routes in the adjacent module hierarchically above a given module are found in the given module.

24. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

configuring the technical solution of at least one module of the selected modules to comprise at least one of cellular, asynchronous transfer mode, plesiochronous digital hierarchy, synchronous digital hierarchy, internet protocol, wavelength-division multiplexing, or physical conduits.

25. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

configuring at least one module of the selected modules to comprise at least one of a conduit module, a line system module, a virtual container-4 module, a 2Mbit/s module, an asynchronous transfer mode link module, an asynchronous transfer mode virtual path module, an asynchronous transfer mode virtual circuit module, an internet protocol module, a wavelength-division multiplexing module, or a cellular module.

26. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the modeling the network comprises modeling nodes and links between the nodes.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising:

configuring types of the nodes and links to be specific for a respective layer.

28. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

configuring the selected modules to add at least one of a node or link to an adjacent module hierarchically above the given module, to an adjacent module hierarchically below the given module, or both to the adjacent module hierarchically above the given module and to the adjacent module hierarchically below the given module.

29. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

configuring the selected modules to operate based on module-specific calculation and routing methods.

30. (New) A network modeling tool, comprising:

provision means for providing a plurality of selected module means for corresponding to technical solutions usable in network layers;

connection means for connecting the selected module means hierarchically to form a hierarchic layered structure, wherein the selected module means are configured to provide resources to adjacent modules in the hierarchic layered structure and are configured substitutably;

modeling means for modeling a network based on the selected module means; and

output means for providing a comparison of the different technical solutions to a user based on the modeling.

31. (New) The network modeling tool of claim 30, wherein a technical solution of at least one module means of the selected module means is configured to be usable in more than one layer of the layered structure.

32. (New) The network modeling tool of claim 30, further comprising:

routing means for performing routing of the layered structure in one module means at a time, of the selected module means, such that routes in an adjacent module means hierarchically above a given module means are found in the given module means.

33. (New) The network modeling tool of claim 30, wherein the technical solution of at least one module means of the selected module means comprises at least one of cellular, asynchronous transfer mode, plesiochronous digital hierarchy, synchronous digital hierarchy, internet protocol, wavelength-division multiplexing, or physical conduits.

34. (New) The network modeling tool of claim 30, wherein at least one module means of the selected module means comprises at least one of a conduit module, a line

system module, a virtual container-4 module, a 2Mbit/s module, an asynchronous transfer mode link module, an asynchronous transfer mode virtual path module, an asynchronous transfer mode virtual circuit module, an internet protocol module, a wavelength-division multiplexing module, or a cellular module.

35. (New) The network modeling tool of claim 30, wherein the modeling means is configured to model nodes and links between the nodes.

36. (New) The network modeling tool of claim 35, wherein types of the nodes and links are specific for a respective layer.

37. (New) The network modeling tool of claim 30, wherein the selected module means are configured to add at least one of a node or link to an adjacent module means hierarchically above a given module means, to an adjacent module hierarchically below the given module means, or both to the adjacent module means hierarchically above the given module means and to the adjacent module means hierarchically below the given module means.

38. (New) The network modeling tool of claim 30, wherein the selected module means are configured to operate based on module-specific calculation and routing methods.

39. (New) A network modeling tool, comprising:

a provision element configured to provide a plurality of selected modules configured to correspond to technical solutions usable in network layers;

a connection element configured to connect the selected modules hierarchically to form a hierarchic layered structure, wherein the selected modules are configured to provide resources to adjacent modules in the hierarchic layered structure and are configured substitutably;

a modeling element configured to model a network based on the selected modules; and

an output element configured to provide a comparison of the different technical solutions to a user based on a result of the modeling element.

40. (New) The network modeling tool of claim 39, wherein the technical solution of at least one module of the selected modules is configured to be usable in more than one layer of the layered structure.

41. (New) The network modeling tool of claim 39, further comprising:

a routing element configured to perform routing of the layered structure in one module at a time, of the selected modules, such that routes in an adjacent module hierarchically above a given module are found in the given module.

42. (New) The network modeling tool of claim 39, wherein the technical solution of at least one module of the selected modules comprises at least one of cellular, asynchronous transfer mode, plesiochronous digital hierarchy, synchronous digital hierarchy, internet protocol, wavelength-division multiplexing, or physical conduits.

43. (New) The network modeling tool of claim 39, wherein at least one module of the selected modules comprises at least one of a conduit module, a line system module, a virtual container-4 module, a 2Mbit/s module, an asynchronous transfer mode link module, an asynchronous transfer mode virtual path module, an asynchronous transfer mode virtual circuit module, an internet protocol module, a wavelength-division multiplexing module, or a cellular module.

44. (New) The network modeling tool of claim 39, wherein the modeling element is configured to model nodes and links between the nodes.

45. (New) The network modeling tool of claim 44, wherein types of the nodes and links are specific for a respective layer.

46. (New) The network modeling tool of claim 39, wherein the selected modules are configured to add at least one of a node or link to an adjacent module hierarchically

above a given module, to an adjacent module hierarchically below the given module, or both to the adjacent module hierarchically above the given module and to the adjacent module hierarchically below the given module.

47. (New) The network modeling tool of claim 39, wherein the selected modules are configured to operate based on module-specific calculation and routing methods.